Army Newswatch Lead Sheet

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Army tackles Environmental issues as it Transforms

Reporter: Hernandez Producer: Hernandez

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LEAD:

AS EXPECTED, THE ARMY'S TRANSFORMATION WAS THE HOT TOPIC AT THE ASSOCIATION OF THE US ARMY'S, WINTER SYMPOSIUM, IN FT LAUDERDALE, FL. FOR MANY, THE UNAVAILING OF THE STRYKER I-A-V NOT ONLY MARKED A MILESTONE IT DEFINED THE CONNECTION BETWEEN TRANSFORMATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGY. BUT NEW TECHNOLOGY BRINGS NEW CHALLENGES, SOME IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ARENA, ENVIRONMENTAL CORRESPONDENT JAVIER HERNANDEZ EXPLAINS....

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Additional Notes:

FOR MANY, THE ARMY'S TRANSFORMATION IS MOSTLY ABOUT NEW EQUIPMENT AND TACTICS, BUT THAT'S ONLY PART OF THE PROCESS.

"The army spends somewhere in the neighborhood of 1.2 to 1.4 billion dollars on environmental concerns. That is a lot of money by anybody's standard."

THE ARMY IS INVESTING SOME OF THAT MONEY IN TECHNOLOGY THAT IS LETHAL YET ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY.

"I just can't throw all of these different pounds or pieces of equipment down range with out thinking about its environmental impact."

GREATER SCRUTINY IS PUT ON THE DESIGN PHASE OF ANY NEW ITEM. THE INTERIM ARMORED VEHICLE, THE STRYKER, IS A GOOD EXAMPLE.

COMPLETELY DESIGNED IN THE VIRTUAL WORLD, STRYKER'S

ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS WERE IRONED OUT BEFORE PRODUCTION BEGAN.

NEW TECHNOLOGIES ALSO HELPED THE ARMY REDESIGN ITS SMALL

ARMS ROUNDS INTO LEAD FREE "GREEN AMMO." ARMY LEADERS FEEL

THESE PROACTIVE STEPS CONTRIBUTE TO THE OVER ALL READINESS OF

THE FORCE.

"You can't train the force, to train the way we're going to fight unless you have the training lands. And you're not going to have the training lands if you're not good environmental stewards."

TECHNOLOGY BRINGS MANY TOOLS TO THE ARMY'S TRANSFORMATION
BUT IT ALSO HELPS THE ARMY MAINTAIN ITS COMMITMENT TO THE
ENVIRONMENT. JAVIER HERNANDEZ, FT LAUDERDALE, FL.